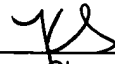




PATENT APPLICATION
PP020667.0003

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Kara Shure

18 March 2009
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Vega Massignani and Beatrice Maria Arico
Application No.: 10/562,191 Examiner: Ford, Vanessa L.
Filing Date: October 26, 2006 Group Art Unit: 1645
Confirmation No.: 4113
For: **VIRULENCE-ASSOCIATED ADHESIONS**

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Sir:

This Reply to Restriction Requirement is submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 23, 2009 for the above-referenced patent application.

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect the claims of Group I (claims 1-6, 10 and 18-19), drawn to a polypeptide comprising one or more of (a) an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 51, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 54; (b) an amino acid sequence having at least 70% identity to a sequence as defined in (a) and/or (c) an amino acid sequence comprising a fragment of at least 8 consecutive amino acids of a sequence as defined in (a) and pharmaceutical composition, for prosecution. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuing application or take such other appropriate action as deemed necessary to protect the non-elected inventions.

Responsive to the species requirement, Applicants elect SEQ ID NO: 51. Each of claims 1-6, 10 and 18-19 are readable on the elected species.

Respectfully submitted,
NOVARTIS VACCINES AND DIAGNOSTICS, INC.

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Dated: *18 March 2009*